

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date  
6 May 2005 (06.05.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2005/040289 A1

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C09D 7/12. (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP2004/052448

(22) International Filing Date: 6 October 2004 (06.10.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data: 03103813.6 15 October 2003 (15.10.2003) EP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CIBA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS HOLDING INC. [CH/CH]; Klybeckstrasse 141, CH-4057 Basel (CH).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): ALBRECHT, Martin [CH/CH]; Bühlstrasse 27, CH-3012 Bern (CH). JUNG, Tunja [DE/DE]; Eggbergstrasse 19, 79618 Rheinfelden-Herten (DE). MÜHLEBACH, Andreas [CH/CH]; Kirchmattweg 31, CH-5070 Frick (CH).

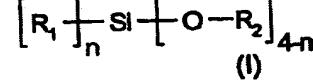
(74) Common Representative: CIBA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS HOLDING INC.; Patent Department, Klybeckstrasse 141, CH-4057 Basel (CH).

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:  
— with international search report

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WO 2005/040289 A1



coatings for protecting surfaces are reinforced and show improved scratch resistance.

(57) **Abstract:** The instant invention discloses a coating composition comprising a) an organic film-forming binder, and b) an inorganic additive of small particle size dispersed in an aqueous or alcoholic solvent prepared by a process which comprises the hydrolysis of a metal alcoholate or a compound of the formula (I) in which R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>cycloalkyl, phenyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl substituted phenyl; R<sub>2</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>salkyl, and n is 0, 1, 2 or 3; with a base. These